

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



South Tacoma Field, Tacoma, Washington

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

April 2005

EPA to Remove South Tacoma Field Soil Cleanup from National Priorities List

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposes to remove South Tacoma Field site surface soils from its National Priorities List. Your comments are invited. We will address significant comments in a Responsiveness Summary available to the public.

Why is EPA proposing to take the site surface soils off the National Priorities List?

EPA and the Washington State Department of Ecology determined that all cleanup related to surface soils at the site is complete and protects people's health and the environment. Tests show that clean capping of surface soils and consolidating "hot-spot" contamination prevent inorganic metals from reaching groundwater. Therefore, EPA proposes to delete the surface soils part of the South Tacoma Field Superfund site from the National Priorities List of the nation's most contaminated hazardous waste sites. This would make the cleaned-up property available for possible reuse.

This proposed deletion only applies to surface soils. Other parts of the site, such as groundwater, will need to meet cleanup goals before they are deleted from EPA's list.

Where can I find the Federal Register notice?

On April 11, 2005, EPA published in the Federal Register a Notice of Intent to Delete (NOID) South Tacoma Field site surface soils from the National Priorities List. The NOID will be on the EPA website. You can find the Federal Register Notice for this proposal at: www.archives.gov/federal_register/the_federal_register/indexes.html. Other site documents, such as this fact sheet, the letter to all interested parties, the Notice of Intent for Partial Deletion, and the Final Closeout Report/Soils are posted on the EPA webpage: www.epa.gov/r10earth.

(See how to access South Tacoma Field information on the back of this fact sheet).

Your Comments Needed by May 12, 2005

EPA will accept and evaluate all public comments before finalizing this deletion. Send your *written* comments by May 12 to:

Kris Flint

EPA Region 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, ECL-111

Seattle, Washington 98101

E-mail: flint.kris@epa.gov

Background

The South Tacoma Field site is part of the Commencement Bay South Tacoma Channel Superfund site. It covers about 260 acres zoned for heavy industrial use, except at the northwest corner, which is zoned for residential use. In early 1999, soils with high levels of arsenic, lead, and other contaminants were consolidated and securely capped on site. The potentially responsible parties for the site are monitoring the contaminated groundwater in the area of Pioneer Builders' Supply to ensure that contamination is being naturally reduced.

In 2003, EPA performed the site's first Five-Year Review and found that the cleanup protects people's health and the environment.

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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*Your Comments are Needed
South Tacoma Channel Site
Tacoma, Washington
April 2005*

Background *continued*

EPA will evaluate the cleanup every five years until groundwater contamination meets EPA cleanup goals. In February 2005, EPA issued the Final Closeout Report/Soils for South Tacoma Field, which summarizes information supporting the proposed deletion of site soils from the National Priorities List.

The administrative record and docket for the proposed deletion are located at:

EPA Region 10
Superfund Records Center
1200 Sixth Avenue, ECL-076
Seattle, Washington 98101

Reviews must be arranged by appointment, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. Call 206-553-4494.

For More Information

Kris Flint, EPA Project Manager
206-553-8155
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Or call toll-free at 1-800-424-4372.

To find South Tacoma Field, visit the website at:
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cbstc>.
Or, from www.epa.gov/r10earth, click on "Superfund," then "Superfund sites sorted by site," and "Commencement Bay-South Tacoma Channel."



Alternative formats are available. For reasonable accommodation, please call Kris Flint at 1-800-424-4372, ext. 8155. TTY users, call 1-800-877-8339.
